



## **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MEDIA ALERT**

For Immediate Release  
Friday, February 3, 2012

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### **WORK ON SR 324 WIDENING IMPACTS I-85 NEXT WEEK**

**WHAT:** Equipment removal from the work zone of SR 324 Bridge over Interstate 85

**WHERE:** State Route 324/Gravel Springs Road over I-85 (north of Exit 115, SR 20) in Buford

**WHEN:** Weather permitting, crews will pace traffic several times a day on I-85 northbound next week from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**WHY:** Large construction equipment must be moved out of the median of Interstate 85.

The estimated construction cost is \$11.2 million. The project is on schedule for its completion date of May 31, 2012. Strickland and Sons Pipeline Inc., of Gainesville is the project's contractor. The widening of SR 324 is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Georgia DOT is responsible for 70 percent of Georgia's \$932 million in highway system ARRA funds. The remaining 30 percent is divided among the state's 15 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and designated rural areas. The MPOs, in conjunction with the Department, are funding projects from these respective allocations. The state also received \$144 million in stimulus funds for public transit and Georgia DOT has awarded related local grants totaling approximately \$39 million. Georgia is eligible for additional highway, rail and aviation grants from funds totaling \$12.1 billion.

The ARRA is a national effort to create jobs and transform America's economy to compete in the 21st century. Nationwide, some \$48 billion in stimulus investments are being made in transportation infrastructure, including highways, public transit, high speed rail and aviation. Georgia DOT has created a Web page ([www.dot.ga.gov/gastimulus](http://www.dot.ga.gov/gastimulus)) devoted to stimulus activities to provide specific program information and promote transparency of the process.

All selected ARRA stimulus projects are fully funded by the federal government; no state or local matching funds are required.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site ([www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov)). Follow the Department on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) (<http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT>) and [Twitter](http://twitter.com/gadepoftrans) (<http://twitter.com/gadepoftrans>).

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